

State of California
Department of Transportation

Transportation Management Plan Guidelines

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Table of Contents

I. INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND

B. WHAT ARE TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT PLANS?

C. POLICY

II. TMP DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

A. OVERVIEW

B. FUNDING AND PROGRAMMING

C. TMP IN PROJECT INITIATION DOCUMENT

D. TMP IN PROJECT REPORT

E. TMP IN PS&E

F. TMP DURING CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

G. RETROFITTING PROGRAMMED PROJECTS

Charge to Other Project Phase 4 (Construction) Funds

Project Cost or Scope Changes

H. LOCAL INVOLVEMENT

III. CORRIDOR, REGIONAL AND MULTI-FUNCTIONAL AREA TMPS

IV. MAJOR LANE CLOSURE APPROVAL PROCESS

A. THRESHOLD CRITERIA FOR LANE CLOSURES REQUIRING APPROVAL OF THE DLCRC

Applicability

Contents of Major Lane Closure Request Submittal

B. EVALUATION

C. Post-Closure Evaluation Statement

I. INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND

With the construction of California's state highway system virtually complete, the California Department of Transportation (Department) major emphasis on transportation projects has largely shifted from new construction to reconstruction, operation, and maintenance of existing facilities. As traffic demand steadily increases, Department work activities can create significant additional traffic delay and safety concerns on already congested highways. Planning work activities and balancing traffic demand with highway capacity becomes more critical.

In order to prevent unreasonable traffic delays resulting from planned work, Transportation Management Plans (TMPs) must be carefully developed and implemented in order to maintain acceptable levels of service and safety during all work activities on the state highway system.

B. WHAT ARE TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT PLANS?

A TMP is a method for minimizing activity-related traffic delay and accidents by the effective application of traditional traffic handling practices and an innovative combination of public and motorist information, demand management, incident management, system management, construction strategies, alternate routes and other strategies.

All TMPs share the common goal of congestion relief during the project period by managing traffic flow and balancing traffic demand with highway capacity through the project area, or by using the entire corridor. Certain low-impact Maintenance and Encroachment Permit activities do not require the development of individual TMPs. "Blanket" TMPs are developed for those activities. A blanket TMP is a generic list of actions that would be taken to keep delay below the delay threshold when performing activities on highways. Each district Maintenance and Encroachment Permit office should have a list of activities to which blanket TMPs apply.

All Capital projects require individual TMPs. Blanket TMPs are suitable for minor projects. Major TMPs are required for high-impact projects. Generally, major TMPs are distinguished by being:

- Multi-jurisdictional in scope, encompassing the Department of California Highway Patrol (CHP), city, county and regional governments, state DOTs, employers, merchants, developers, transit operators, ridesharing agencies, neighborhood and special interest groups, emergency services, and Transportation Management Associations;
- Multi-faceted, comprised of an innovative mix of traffic operations, facility enhancement, demand-management and public relations strategies, as well as more traditional work zone actions, construction methods and contract incentives, customized to meet the unique needs of the impacted corridor;
- In place over a longer period of time, sometimes implemented up to a year or more prior to the start of actual construction, with specific elements often implemented incrementally to coincide with construction phasing.

C. POLICY

Department Deputy Directive 60 (DD-60) titled Transportation Management Plans (see APPENDIX) requires TMPs and contingency plans for all state highway activities.

Policy Statement:

The Department minimizes motorist delays when implementing projects or performing other activities on the state highway system. This is accomplished without compromising public or worker safety, or the quality of the work being performed.

TMPs, including contingency plans, are required for all construction, maintenance, encroachment permit, planned emergency restoration, locally or specially-funded, or other activities on the state highway system. Where several consecutive or linking projects or activities within a region or corridor create a cumulative need for a TMP, the Department coordinates individual TMPs or develops a single interregional TMP.

TMPs are considered early, during the project initiation or planning stage.

Major lane closures require District Lane Closure Review Committee (DLCRC) approval.

Definitions:

Major lane closures are those that are expected to result in significant traffic impacts despite the implementation of TMPs.

Significant traffic impact is 30 minutes above normal recurring traffic delay on the existing facility or the delay threshold set by the District Traffic Manager (DTM), whichever is less.

Contingency Plans address specific actions that will be taken to restore or minimize effects on traffic when congestion or delays exceed original estimates due to unforeseen events such as work-zone accidents, higher than predicted traffic demand, or delayed lane closures.

II. TMP DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

A. OVERVIEW

Responsibilities:

The DTM:

- Acts as the single focal point for all traffic impact decisions resulting from planned activities on the state highway system.
- Determines the extent of a TMP.
- Facilitates review and approval of TMP measures and planned lane closure requests.
- Directs the termination or modification of active planned lane closure operations when traffic impact becomes significant, without compromising traveler or worker safety.

The TMP Manager:

- Acts as the single focal point for development and implementation of TMPs.

The Construction Traffic Manager (CTM):

- Serves as a liaison between Construction, the DTM and the TMP Manager.
- Reviews the TMP and traffic contingency plan for constructability issues.
- Act as a resource for the Resident Engineer, DTM and TMP Manager during TMP implementation and reviews the contractor's contingency plan.

The extent of a TMP is determined by the DTM during the preliminary studies of a capital project. For all TMPs, an itemized estimate of the proposed strategies and their respective costs are included in the Project Study Report (PSR) or Project Study Scoping Report (PSSR) for proper funding consideration. The workload required to develop and implement TMPs is estimated in advance and captured in the district work plan.

For major TMPs, a TMP team may need to be formed and led by the TMP Manager. The itemized strategies and costs are further refined in the project report stage as determined by the TMP team and appropriate functional units using the most current geometric information available. Those elements of the TMP not included as part of the main construction contract should be itemized under State Furnished Material and Expenses using the appropriate Basic Engineers Estimate System (BEES) codes in the plans, specifications and estimates. During construction, TMP activities are to be monitored and evaluated by the TMP team and those elements found not to be cost effective should be modified as deemed appropriate or eliminated. The TMP process is explained in detail in the following sections.

B. FUNDING AND PROGRAMMING

When identifying funding for various TMP elements, it is important to distinguish between capital outlay and capital outlay support.

Work done by district staff for the planning and designing of TMP activities for capital projects are a normal part of the project development process and should be captured as capital outlay support. The TMP Manager and each functional manager should work closely with the project manager to ensure that TMP activities are included in all project work plans. TMP support activities to consider include ridesharing programs, Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) contracts, public awareness campaigns, parallel route improvements and the Request for Proposal (RFP) process up to award of the contract. Note that some of these activities may also have a capital component in addition to the support component discussed here. Workload hours for TMP activities must be included in the Capital Outlay Support (COS) project's work plan in order to be resourced (funded) by COS. These activities should then be charged to each project's expenditure authorization (EA), using the appropriate Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) code for that stage of the project. TMP-related work should be charged only to the WBS codes reserved for those activities. These codes can be found on the Department's Division of Project Management's Intranet web page.

Work done by district staff for implementing TMP elements during construction of capital projects are also a normal part of the project development process. Again, workload (hours) for implementing TMP activities must be included in the COS project's work plan in order to be resourced (funded) by COS. These activities should then be charged to the appropriate project's phase three EA, and WBS code 270 (Perform Construction Engineering and Contract Administration).

Some funds necessary to implement TMP elements not done by the Department staff, including consultant contracts, can be sourced from capital outlay funds allocated by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) as itemized in the plans, specifications and estimates. Some TMP elements, such as parallel route improvements and highway advisory radios, could be a phase of the construction contract or separate construction contracts while others such as public awareness campaigns and transit subsidies must be separate contracts or cooperative agreements.

The TMP elements that need to be in place prior to start of construction are identified and funded as stage construction or first order of work under a single package presented to the CTC. If approved, the Division of Budgets may assign specific amounts for each TMP activity. All TMP activities may not necessarily be included under the main contract. Service contracts such as those for freeway service patrols, public service or consultant contracts, information campaigns, or establishing telephone hotlines must be arranged separately with consultants and other providers. For most projects, it takes four to six months to get a service contract in place. This means that all consultant contracts have been advertised, the consultant selected, and the contract ready for signature and award immediately following CTC allocation of funds. Other activities such as parallel route improvements are usually included in the main construction contract and as a first order of work under a cooperative agreement.

In some cases, the CTC can be petitioned to fund a portion of the TMP as an initial phase of the main project. This is usually for a high priority project where plans, specifications, and estimates for the main project are not yet finalized, but early funds are needed to initiate TMP activities such as making transit arrangements with local governments. The petition to fund an initial phase comes from the district, explaining why a portion of the project must proceed before funding for the main project is allocated. These early funds reduce the programmed funds for the main project accordingly.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) supports the TMP concept and views major reconstruction projects as an excellent opportunity to initiate continuing traffic management strategies that provide improved traffic operations long beyond the completion of work. Examples include: installation of permanent Changeable Message Sign (CMS), full structural section shoulders, continuing auxiliary lanes, and wider shoulders for incident management during construction if cost-effective in the long term. All cost-effective transportation management activities that address the problem of delay or safety are eligible for 100 percent Federal Aid funding.

TMPs and contingency plans for Encroachment Permit projects are developed by the permittee or by Department staff. Staff time for development, review and implementation of TMPs for Encroachment Permits is charged to the permit. Maintenance normally develops TMPs for its projects; Maintenance and staff from other functional areas that expend time on Maintenance TMP charge to the designated Maintenance EA.

C. TMP IN PROJECT INITIATION DOCUMENT

The TMP is part of the normal project development process and must be considered in the Project Initiation Document (PID) or planning stage (project K phase). Since projects are generally programmed, budgeted, and given an Expenditure Authorization (EA) upon PID approval, it is important to allow for the proper cost, scope and scheduling of the TMP activities at this early stage of development. TMPs that are retrofitted to projects already programmed must be handled on a case by case basis and may require a contract change order.

Prior to PID approval, the initiating unit sends conceptual geometrics to the district Division of Operations for evaluation. The DTM estimates the extent of the TMP required and determines whether potential traffic delays are anticipated that cannot be mitigated by traditional traffic handling practices or well-planned construction staging. The TMP Manager must sign-off on the TMP DATA SHEET in the PID. A TMP cost estimate should be developed for each alternative being considered. An estimate should not be based only on the project cost. The cost of a TMP could range from a small percentage of project cost to 20 percent or more. Further guidance can be obtained from the following publications "Wilbur Smith & Associates TMP Effectiveness Study" and Frank Wilson & Associates "A Traffic Management Plan Study for State Route 91" located in Headquarters Traffic Operations, Office of System Management Operations.

TMP Elements

A list of potential TMP strategies with their respective elements is categorized in TABLE 1. As many different elements as are feasible should be considered for the proposed project's preliminary TMP.

When developing a preliminary TMP at this early stage, use the most current layout of the roadway (geometrics) information available and consider:

Contingency Plans	Expected vehicle delay (from data sheet)
Lane closure policies and procedures	Public/media exposure
TMC coordination	Political or environmental sensitivity
Multi-jurisdictional communication and buy-in	Business impacts and affected activity
CHP and local law enforcement involvement	Percent trucks
Emergency closures	Potential increase in accidents
Clearance of alternate routes for STAA and oversized	Permit issues
Special training or workforce development	Conflicting construction projects
Duration of construction (months)	Percent reduction in vehicle capacity
Length of project (miles)	Special factors (if any)
Number of major construction phases	Impact on Transit/Railroad services
Urbanization (urban, suburban, or rural)	Viability of alternative routes
Traffic volumes	

Wilbur Smith Associate's TMP Effectiveness Study and Frank Wilson & Associate's A Traffic Management Plan Study for State Route 91 During Construction of HOV Lanes (both available from Headquarters Division of Traffic Operations, Office of System Management Operations) are excellent sources for guidance on selecting the most cost-effective TMP elements. The district Public Information office is also an experienced source for estimating the effectiveness of public information campaign options, and can help the TMP Manager estimate their cost and effectiveness in reducing traffic demand through the project area.

Public information campaigns serve two main purposes in TMPs. They inform the public about the overall purpose of the project to generate and maintain public support; and they encourage changes in travel behavior during the project to minimize congestion. Because they give travelers the information they need to make their own travel choices, public information campaigns can be the single most effective of all TMP elements.

The FSP is a congestion relief program of roving tow trucks operating in most metropolitan and some rural areas. The FSP program is operated by Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs) with funding from the Department. The Department also reimburses the CHP for training and supervisory services provided for the FSP. The RTPAs contract with tow companies

for commute time service and some weekend and mid-day service to assist motorists with simple repairs (i.e. flat tire, one gallon of gas) or tow the automobile from the highway.

FSP is available for incident management during construction. However, construction-related FSP service needs to be funded as part of the TMP. A cooperative agreement with the RTPA is required, outlining the services provided and the fund transfer. An interagency agreement with the CHP is required for any support services (field supervision and dispatch operator services). These agreements should be initiated with the RTPA and the CHP as soon as it is determined that FSP should be in the project TMP.

The Department's HQ Traffic Operations is currently working on Master Agreements with the RTPAs for future FSP services. This process will simplify the process for both the Department and the RTPAs by eliminating the need for a cooperative agreement for each project. Only a task order form will be needed for each project. A similar agreement is being created with the CHP. Please contact HQ Traffic Operations, Freeways Operations Branch for more information.

TABLE 1

TMP STRATEGIES AND THEIR ELEMENTS	
A. Public Information	Off peak/Night/Weekend Work
Brochures and Mailers	Planned Lane/Ramp Closures
Media Releases (including	Project Phasing
Minority Media Sources)	Temporary Traffic Screens
Paid Advertising	Total Facility Closure
Public Information Center	Truck Traffic/Permit Restrictions
Public Meetings/Speaker's Bureau	Variable Lanes
Telephone Hotline	Extended Weekend Closures
Visual Information (videos, slide shows, etc.)	Reduced Speed Zones
Local cable TV and News	Coordination with Adjacent Construction
Traveler Information Systems (Internet)	Traffic Control Improvements
Internet	Total Facility Closure
B. Motorist Information Strategies	E. Demand Management
Electronic Message Signs	HOV Lanes/Ramps
Changeable Message Signs	Park-and-Ride Lots
Extinguishable Signs	Parking Management/Pricing
Ground Mounted Signs	Rideshare Incentives
Commercial Traffic Radio	Rideshare Marketing
Highway Advisory Radio (fixed and mobile)	Transit Incentives

Planned Lane Closure Web Site	Transit Service Improvements
The Department's Highway Information Network (CHIN)	Train or Light-Rail Incentives
Radar Speed Message Sign	Variable Work Hours
	Telecommute
C. Incident Management	Shuttle Service Incentives
Call Boxes	
Construction or Maintenance Zone Enhanced	F. Alternate Route Strategies
Enforcement Program – COZEEP or MAZEEP	Ramp Closures
Freeway Service Patrol	Street Improvements
Traffic Surveillance Stations (loop detectors and CCTV) Closures	Reversible Lanes
911 Cellular Calls	Temporary Lanes or Shoulder Use
Transportation Management Centers	
Traffic Control Officers	G. Other Strategies
CHP Officer in TMC during construction	Application of new technology
Onsite Traffic Advisor	Innovative products
CHP Helicopter	Improved specifications
Traffic Management Team	Staff Training/Development
D. Construction Strategies	
Incentive/Disincentive Clauses	
Ramp Metering	
Lane Rental	

If the DTM determines that a major TMP is required, the TMP Manager forms a TMP development team. The team's membership will vary according to the TMP elements proposed and the project's impacts. At a minimum, it should include representatives from Construction, Public Affairs, Project Development, Traffic Operations (including Transportation Permits), the CHP and local agencies. Others to be considered as the plan gets refined are Rideshare, Transportation Planning, Public Transportation, Maintenance, Structures, CHP, local law enforcement, local transit agencies, emergency services, and FHWA. Local Maintenance field staff familiar with conditions in the project area should be team members or should be consulted as needed as the TMP develops.

D. TMP IN PROJECT REPORT

As more information becomes available during the project report phase the preliminary scope and cost of the overall TMP and the individual elements should continue to be refined. The TMP team will coordinate the TMP strategies with the project engineer and appropriate units, with

each team member handling their area of expertise. For major projects, subcommittees or task forces may be formed to handle the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation details of some elements. The TMP Manager will keep the Project Manager and district Construction Coordinator updated and must sign-off on the TMP data sheet of the project report.

It is appropriate at this point to develop a timeline schedule for major TMPs keeping in mind that many elements of the TMP have to begin prior to the start of construction. Many TMP elements listed in Table 1 need to be developed separately but concurrently with the project plans. They may be bid and constructed or initiated separately from the project or be included in the project plans and be installed or implemented as the first order of work.

Some tasks may take a long time depending on the complexity of the major project and the type of transportation management necessary. For example, if building new park-and-ride lots are necessary for the Ridesharing element, the planning phase would have to be extended for several months and a design phase added.

An additional activity involves analyzing the existing traffic volume in the corridor, both on the freeway and surface streets. This will provide a basis for establishing the goal of the TMP, i.e., the number of vehicles that should be removed from the freeway, and in determining the capability of the surrounding surface streets to handle the additional traffic demand. It can also provide a database for evaluating the overall effectiveness of the TMP.

E. TMP IN PS&E

Those TMP elements that are not part of the main contract, but are identified as capital outlay costs tied to the main project, should be itemized as State Furnished Materials and Expenses using the appropriate BEES item cost (see TABLE 2). The Project Engineer should consult with the TMP Manager to ensure that the appropriate "Maintaining Traffic" Standard Special Provisions (SSP) are included in the PS&E. The SSPs should always require the contractor to submit a contingency plan.

The TMP and PS&E should address oversize and overweight vehicles traveling under a transportation permit. Additional construction area signs should be provided that restrict travel to overwidth vehicles whenever the lateral clearance drops to 15 feet or less.

The DTM must concur with the PS&E and with Encroachment Permit and Maintenance TMPs.

TABLE 2

TMP BEES ITEM CODES
066003 State Furnished Materials
066004 Miscellaneous State Furnished Materials
066005 Concurrent Work
066006 Miscellaneous Concurrent Work
066008 Incentive Payment
066009 Utility Expense

066010 Work by Others
066060 Additional Traffic Control
066061 CHP Enhanced Enforcement
066062 COZEEP Contract
066063 Traffic management plan – public Information
066064 Specter Radar Unit
066065 Freeway Service Patrol
066066 Public Transit Support
066069 Rideshare Promotion
066070 Maintain Traffic
066072 Maintain Detour
066074 Traffic Control
066076 Temporary Traffic Control
066077 Install Traffic Control Devices
066578 Portable Changeable Message Signs
066825 Temporary Striping
066872 Service Contract
128602 Traffic Control System (One Way)
128650 Portable Changeable Message Signs
129150 Temporary Traffic Screen
861793 Telephone Service (Location 1)
860811 Detector Loop
860925 Traffic Monitoring Station (Count)
860926 Traffic Monitoring Station (Speed)
860927 Traffic Monitoring Station (Incident)
860930 Traffic Monitoring Station
861088 Modify Ramp Metering System
861985 Travelers Information system
869070 Power and Telephone Service
991046 Public Address System
991047 Telephone Facility
994920 Bicycle Parking Rack

995000 Bus Shelter
995002 Bus Passenger Shelter (Type S-1)
995004 Bus Passenger Shelter (Type SM-1)
995005 Bus Passenger Shelter (Type LM-1)

F. TMP DURING CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

During construction, those TMP elements that are part of the main contract or Encroachment Permit are implemented under the general direction of district Construction or Encroachment Permits. Those separate contracts/agreements such as for rideshare and transit activities and public awareness campaigns will be under the direction of their respective contract managers.

Special effort should be given to assure that Changeable Message Sign (CMS), Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) and other media tools provide accurate and timely information to motorists regarding lane closure times and

TMP elements must be carefully monitored for cost effectiveness. The TMP team should determine whether the implemented measures are reaching the predetermined goals for cost effectiveness. If an element's predetermined goal is not immediately reached during implementation, but there is a general trend toward meeting that goal, the element can remain in effect and the FHWA will continue to participate. Elements that show no sign of approaching their predetermined goals as determined by the TMP Manager must be modified as deemed appropriate or dropped.

Contractor compliance with lane closure pickup deadlines can be enforced in two ways. A "maintaining traffic" SSP allows a penalty to be assessed to the contractor for value of traffic delay when the contractor exceeds the lane closure window. The minimum penalty is \$1,000 per 10 minutes, but it can greatly exceed the minimum, depending on traffic volumes and the highway facility. The DTM calculates the "delay penalty" during PS&E. The second method is for the state representative to suspend the contract work.

A contractor or the Department forces (such as Maintenance) can be ordered to pick up a lane closure early if traffic impacts become significant either due to a project incident or activities outside the project area. Early pickup should only be ordered when traveler and worker safety will not be compromised. The "maintaining traffic" SSPs for capital projects provide for compensating contractors for early pickup. Encroachment Permit provisions require the permittee to pick up a closure early without compensation.

DTM's are to ensure that lane closures will not be terminated early, or may be extended beyond the lane closure window when the activity needs to be completed for the safety of the public or workers. These activities may include structure inspections and repairs, guardrail repairs, culvert replacement.

In order to avoid significant traffic impacts, it is essential to monitor and respond immediately to delay, pick up closures on time, and have solid traffic and contractor contingency plans.

A Department staff member who can make informed decisions about implementing contingency plans and modifying, terminating or extending approved lane closures should be available to respond to significant delays and other unexpected events whenever lane closures are in place.

The designated employee(s) may be Traffic Operations, Construction, or TMC staff, depending on the district.

At the end of the project a post-TMP evaluation report must be completed by the TMP Manager for all major TMPs and for TMPs where the actual delay exceeded the threshold set by the DTM. Post-TMP meetings with the CHP and other partners can be held to identify what went well and what could have been done differently. Samples of past TMP reports can be obtained from headquarters' Traffic Operations, Office of System Management Operations and from the DTM.

Contingency Plan

Both traffic and contractor contingency plans are required for all planned work. Both blanket and individual TMPs must include contingency plans. The traffic contingency plan, prepared by the Department or a consultant, addresses specific actions that will be taken to restore or minimize affects on traffic when the congestion or delay exceeds original estimates due to unforeseen events such as work-zone accidents, higher than predicted traffic demand, or delayed lane closures. The contractor contingency plan addresses activities under the contractor's control in the work zone. After the contractor's contingency plan is submitted and approved, it becomes part of the TMP contingency plan.

The TMP contingency plan should include, but is not limited to the following:

- Information that clearly defines trigger points which require lane closure termination (i.e., inclement weather, length of traffic queue exceeds threshold;
- Decision tree with clearly defined lines of communication and authority;
- Specific duties of all participants during lane closure operations, such as, coordination with CHP or local police, etc.;
- Names, phone numbers and pager numbers for the DTM or their designee, the Resident Engineer (RE), the Maintenance Superintendent, the Permit Inspector, the on-site traffic advisor, the CHP Division or Area Commander, appropriate local agency representatives, and other applicable personnel;
- Coordination strategy (and special agreements if applicable) between DTM, RE, on-site traffic advisor, Maintenance, CHP and local agencies;
- Contractor's contingency plan;
- Standby equipment, State personnel, and availability of local agency personnel for callout (normally requires a Cooperative Agreement);
- Development of contingencies based on maintaining minimum service level.

G. RETROFITTING PROGRAMMED PROJECTS

Usually the extent of the TMP is to be determined prior to programming (PID approval). However, it may sometimes be necessary to retrofit a TMP to a project that is already programmed due to project changes, policy changes, emergencies or unforeseen conditions. These projects must be handled on a case by case basis since the course of action will depend on how far along the project development process is and how extensive the TMP needs to be. Retrofitted TMPs may require a TMP team and TMP Manager and involvement from all functional units as discussed earlier in these guidelines. The project manager is responsible for

initiating a TMP investigation since they are most knowledgeable of project status. Some suggestions for funding retrofitted TMP are:

Use of Minor Funds

Minor A and B money has been used to pay for TMP measures that total less than \$1,000,000. The districts will not usually be reimbursed for this even though the FHWA agrees to participate (it is not economically feasible for the Department to process minor funds for reimbursement). There have been exceptions however, and that decision is at the discretion of the Federal Resources Branch in headquarters Budgets Program.

Charge to Other Project Phase 4 (Construction) Funds

Funds from other construction contracts in the district may be used if those projects are in the vicinity of, or will be affected by, the project requiring TMP funds. At the discretion of the Deputy District Director for Construction a list of chargeable project EAs may be submitted to headquarters Accounting for prorated charging. Very few Accounting staff are aware of the process required and headquarters Traffic Operations, Office of System Management Operations should be contacted for assistance.

Project Cost or Scope Changes

The CTC has delegated to the Director of the Department the authority to increase a project's cost by up to 20 percent without prior commission approval. This authority has been delegated to other Department managers as described in Project Management Directive PMD6. This increase can be used for TMP implementation and will be 100 percent reimbursable by the FHWA. The increased costs must be absorbed by other projects in the district since the total capital outlay allocation remains the same.

H. LOCAL INVOLVEMENT

The TMP Deputy Directive 60 applies to all projects on state facilities, including those not funded by the state. District Directors are responsible for assuring local compliance. Since many measure projects are split funded, the Department and local entities must work cooperatively to develop an effective TMP. The Department is responsible for approving all PSRs and it is at this point that agreements should be reached concerning the costs and scope of TMP measures.

III. CORRIDOR, REGIONAL AND MULTI-FUNCTIONAL AREA TMPs

When multiple or consecutive projects are within the same general corridor, the cumulative impact can result in excessive traffic delays and detour conflicts. These may be multiple capital projects, the involvement of more than one district, or a combination of capital projects and Encroachment Permit and/or Maintenance activities. Corridor or regional coordination will minimize or eliminate these impacts and reduce inconvenience to the motoring public.

When multiple projects are in the same corridor or on corridors within the same traffic area, it may be possible to develop a single corridor or regional TMP. In other cases, individual TMPs are developed and funded from their own sources, and a bare-bones corridor or regional TMP addresses the cumulative impact. Each project covered by corridor and regional TMP contributes resources in proportion to its traffic impact. During TMP implementation, the TMC serves as an information clearinghouse and coordinates operations. The TMC helps identify conflicts and recommends appropriate action. When provided with accurate and up-to-date lane closure information the TMC provides real-time traffic information via electronic media, CMS, and HAR.

The TMP Manager coordinates the development and implementation of corridor and regional TMPs. The TMP Manager forms a TMP team including, as a minimum, representatives from Construction, Maintenance, Public Affairs and Traffic Operations for each of the affected districts. The initial meeting is held several months in advance of the construction season to set milestones, and allow time to gather project information and prepare and distribute information.

The corridor/regional TMP may need elements in addition to those provided by the individual TMP for each project. Those elements may include changeable message signs at key locations outside individual project limits, the establishment of an information hot line and web-sites for all projects involved. The use of the statewide Caltrans Highway Information Network (CHIN) number (1-800-427-ROAD), and particularly the use of TMCs as a central reporting hub. The Northern Valley TMC in District 3 has established reporting procedures specifically for interregional TMPs that are obtainable from headquarters Traffic Operations.

IV. MAJOR LANE CLOSURE APPROVAL PROCESS

This process applies to all major lane closures on the state highway system. Major lane closures are those lane closures that are expected to result in significant traffic impacts despite the implementation of TMPs. A "significant traffic impact" is defined in DD-60 as (a) 30 minutes above normal recurring traffic delay on the facility, or (b) the delay threshold set by the DTM, whichever is less. When a planned lane closure is expected to have a significant traffic impact, Headquarters District Lane Closure Review Committee (DLCRC) review and approval is required. The functional unit directly involved in the work must submit the major lane closure request to the DLCRC for approval as detailed below.

A traveler's trip should not be increased by more than 30 minutes due to planned Department activities. The DTM may set a lower maximum if the economic impact of a delay over 20 minutes would be high. The lesser of these delay limits is the maximum delay threshold allowed for any activity. Only the DLCRC can approve a higher delay threshold for a project.

Additionally, it should be noted that TMP activities are comprehensive, and involve actions in addition to traffic management through the work zone, as detailed in these TMP Guidelines. All lane closure operations and other planned activities should be evaluated at the earliest possible developmental stage for potential impacts and mitigation strategies. Pre-implementation meetings and contingency plans remain important aspects of all lane closure operations to minimize impacts of unforeseen events.

A. THRESHOLD CRITERIA FOR LANE CLOSURES REQUIRING APPROVAL OF THE DLCRC

DLCRC review and approval is required when planned activities are expected to result in a traffic delay that exceeds 30 minutes or the delay threshold set by the DTM, which ever is less.

DLCRC review and approval is not required for emergency closures due to natural events or incidents. However, the DTM must be notified, and every effort must be made to minimize traveler delay and reopen traffic lanes as soon as practical.

Applicability

The DLCRC, comprised of the CHP, District Public Information Officer, and Deputy District Directors of Construction, Design, Maintenance and Operations, approves all requests for major lane closures that meet the above threshold criteria. The criteria are applicable for moving or static lane closure operations. The DLCRC will decide when to submit lane closure requests that

are of an interregional, statewide, environmental, or otherwise sensitive nature to the Headquarters Lane Closure Review Committee (HQLCRC) for their approval.

The DLCRC is responsible for determining when HQLCRC approval is required. The HQLCRC is comprised of the Division Chiefs for Construction, Maintenance, Design and Local Programs, and Traffic Operations along with the Headquarters Public Information Officer, and a representative from the CHP. The HQLCRC may review the closure or leave the decision to the DLCRC. The HQLCRC should be advised of all planned lane closures that exceed the above threshold criteria. All planned lane closures that exceed the above threshold criteria and are of an interregional, statewide, environmental, or otherwise sensitive nature, as determined by the district LCRC, may also require approval of the HQLCRC.

Contents of Major Lane Closure Request Submittal

The functional unit requesting the lane closure and responsible for its performance prepares a proposed lane closure submittal. Sufficient information is provided to ensure complete understanding of the proposal. The submittal is sent through the DTM for review before sending it on to the LCRC. If additional TMP efforts can reduce the expected additional delay to less than 30 minutes, then the closure does not have to go to the LCRC. The DLCRC/HQLCRC may require additional information during its review. At a minimum, the following information is recommended initially:

1. Location and vicinity maps showing the state highway(s), local street network, and other adjacent lane closures or nearby work that may affect traffic during the same period, including special events;
2. Dates, times and locations of the lane closure(s);
3. Brief description of the work being performed during the lane closure(s);
4. Brief description of each lane closure and its anticipated affect on traffic;
5. Amount of expected delay and corresponding queue length for each lane closure;
6. Summary of TMP strategies that will be used to reduce delay and motorist inconvenience during the lane closure(s) (refer to Table 1). A copy of the approved TMP for the project, if available;
7. Contingency plan (see "Contingency Plan" below).

B. EVALUATION

The LCRC is responsible for approving major lane closures and will use the items below for evaluating lane closure operations. In its evaluation of the proposal, the LCRC will give consideration to the accuracy, reliability, and completeness of information provided as well as other reliable sources of information available to the LCRC.

Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of effectiveness in the following areas:

- Promoting motorist and worker safety;
- TMP strategies;
- Plans for coordination with adjacent construction, maintenance, encroachment permits, and special events;

- Plans for coordination with TMC and field personnel;
- Plans for coordination with public media;
- Plans for use of existing field elements such as traffic surveillance loops, changeable message signs, highway advisory radio, and Closed Circuit Television cameras;
- Lines of communication and authority (top to bottom);
- Plans for monitoring delay (or corresponding queue length) during lane closure operations;
- Alternatives to proposed closures;
- Viability of contingency plans;

C. Post-Closure Evaluation Statement

A Post-Closure Evaluation statement will be submitted to headquarters' Traffic Operations Program, Office of System Management Operations, on all projects that exceed expected delay or run outside of the closure window. No more than one page is suggested. The functional unit performing the lane closure will prepare the statement within five working days of the date the lane closure exceeded the threshold criteria. The statement should explain:

- The cause and impact of delays;
- Either actions taken or to be taken to avoid or mitigate an occurrence or recurrence;
- Why the expected delay was exceeded and/or why it was necessary to exceed the closure window;
- How the situation can be avoided in the future.

Post-closure evaluation statements are only for closures formally approved by the District LCRC under this process (i.e. exceed the lesser of 30 minutes or the DTM limit).